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Fidel Castro Ordered Jack Kennedy's Death

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Strong evidence exists leading inexorably to the conclusion that Cuban Communist dictator Fidel Castro was the prime mover in the killing of President John F. Kennedy and very probably the assassination of his brother, Robert.

Some of the evidence here revealed for the first time is circumstantial, but when fortified with additional information now documented, it supplies the motive for the death of the nation's 35th chief executive, providing the important missing link to the otherwise senseless killing of a man who had captured the imagination of the entire world with his style and his grin.

The most emotional event of this generation was the quick succession of rifle shots from a sixth story window of the Texas School Book Depository building in Dallas, Tex., on Nov. 22, 1963.

The official version of the event was that three shots were fired, and the first and third snuffed out the life of the dashing young President — the "Prince of America's Camelot."

America had a love affair with the handsome, grinning Jack, and his assassination left a nation torn with grief and sorrow — in which much of the world joined — demanding to know why this shining star of the political firmament was struck down in the full flower of life.

Many theories, some sinister, some ridiculous and some quite plausible, were advanced as to motives and the cause of death.

The country had been told by law enforcement investigators that an improbable young man by the name of Lee Harvey Oswald had pulled the trigger which sent a bullet crashing through the brain of the first U.S. President to be born in the 20th Century.

Momentarily, it seemed certain that the truth behind the killing would surely be developed through Oswald. Following capture, however, Oswald himself, before he had an opportunity to reveal anything, was slain in the Dallas Municipal Building by a seamy nightclub operator named Jack Ruby.

Public indignation cried out for the truth, and the demand was quickly answered by the new President Lyndon Baines Johnson with the appointment of a blue ribbon panel headed by Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court, Earl Warren. Among the members was Gerald Ford, a congressman at the time and presently the President of the United States.

For many weeks, this illustrious panel, interrogated witnesses, sifted through all available evidence and finally rendered a 296,000-word report which in effect said that President Kennedy was killed by Oswald, acting alone, with no plausible determination of his motives.

The American public accepted this report with varying degrees of reservation. Even though the investigating panel was above reproach and appeared thorough, it was impossible to accept all the findings at face value, with no skepticism.

This reporter also had doubts as to the conclusions of the Warren Report and like many others in the newspaper business, steadfastly sought to determine if Oswald acted alone or was part of a gigantic conspiracy.

The many books on the subject with their manifold theories were not nearly as impressive as information which came to my attention in early 1967. From unimpeachable sources of unquestioned knowledge and integrity, I learned the Central Intelligence Agency had conceived a plot to assassinate Fidel Castro, whom it regarded as a danger to our nation's security. Castro, a dedicated Communist, was now heading Cuba, which was once a friendly nation only 90 miles from our shores

The killing of Castro was viewed as an urgent need, coming in the aftermath of the national humiliation attending the debacle of the Bay of Pigs invasion financed by the CIA with the approval of the White House.

A further motivation for the killing of the bearded Cuban leader was the desire of President Kennedy to counteract the catastrophically adverse implication of his political career occasioned by the slaughter of freedom-loving Cubans assisted by U.S. advisors in the swamp waters of the Bay of Pigs.

So great was the President's concern that his brother, Robert Kennedy, the attorney general, actually departed his offices at the Department of Justice and physically located his headquarters at the CIA in order to personally direct the counter measures he deemed necessary to offset the harmful blow to the Kennedy political fortunes — a blow that was spelled "Bay of Pigs." A significant part of Robert Kennedy's strategy revolved about the plan to kill Castro.

Investigation revealed it was a coldly-calculated plot to be carried out through the enlistment of underworld figures who had been active in Havana gambling operations prior to Castro's overthrow of the Batista government and who still had contacts in Havana.

The CIA arranged the enlistment of these organized crime figures and financed their operations. The hired killers first set about reviving contacts in Havana that were close to the Castro regime; secured firearms and poison, supplied by the CIA; and then zeroed-in on liquidating Castro by a bullet or poison.

Investigation shows that five separate and distinct assassination attempts were made on the Cuban leader's life—three by gunfire and two by poison.

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All five failed and in the course of the last attempt, made in 1963, Castro agents captured the CIA assassin and tortured him into revealing to Castro personally, the entire plot to kill him.

Intelligence relayed to me in 1967 was to the effect that Castro was enraged and stated in substance that the business of killing heads of state could and would work both ways.

Because of the high-placed source of the information I was sworn to strict secrecy unless I could develop independent intelligence, other than the "plants" within the Castro inner circle.

It wasn't easy in coming but there is now credible evidence of Castro's purpose to respond to the attempts on his life by ordering the assassination of President Kennedy.

Shortly following the tortured confession of the CIA agent, Castro met with officials from South and Latin American states at which meeting he loudly revealed in its entirety the CIA efforts to assassinate him.

He baldly told the assembly "the Kennedys have sought to kill me; I shall mete out the same justice to them!"

Information which I have developed proves that shortly after this meeting, a Brazilian representative sent a confidential report to Washington recounting Castro's threat — and more, this report, which was never revealed to the Warren Commission, still rests in Washington.

What is most significant is that Castro's threat was to the "Kennedys" and not to the President alone. This becomes even more meaningful in light of the subsequent assassinations of both Jack and Robert Kennedy, logical motivation for which has been wholly lacking in both instances.

Evidence in my possession, coupled with documents in the hands of congressional intelligence agency oversight committees, provides a clearly marked trail leading to logical conclusions as to why the Kennedy brothers were killed. That path leads straight to the door of a vengeful Castro.

It is information that was withheld from the Warren Commission, which made its report without knowledge of Castro's threat and which therefore exhausted every other theory, without coming up with a motive that could be sensibly defended, on why the President was killed.

My investigation has definitely established that Chief Justice Earl Warren, while still sitting on the Supreme Court, was advised by a person of unquestioned integrity and patriotism, that there had been five assassination attempts upon the life of Fidel Castro, instigated and implemented by the CIA. And that the last unsuccessful attempt occurred in the time frame not

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I was

long before the Dallas killing of John Kennedy. He also heard, that Castro, upon learning of the "Kennedy attempt to kill him," as he viewed it, vowed to respond in kind.

The aging Chief Justice was stunned by this information, well knowing that it undermined the integrity of the Warren Commission Report, his reputation as chairman, and that of every other member of that Commission.

I can now reveal that the Chief Justice immediately summoned James J. Rowley, head of the U.S. Secret Service to his office in the Supreme Court Building.

He informed Rowley of everything he had learned and demanded that even though the commission had concluded its work, the truth must be told to the American people.

What then developed is an almost unbelievable story of bureaucratic self preservation.

The head of the Secret Service, the agency charged with protecting the life of the President, determined that "jurisdiction" in the matter rested in the Federal Bureau of Investigation. He thereupon communicated to J. Edgar Hoover everything that the chief justice had told him and concluded his communique with the information that his agency would take no further action.

The matter rested there, however, with Hoover apparently doing nothing until he received a call from President Johnson. LBJ, of notoriously short fuse, said the White House had received reports of an abortive attempt by the CIA to kill Castro shortly before the Dallas assassination. The President demanded to know what the FBI knew about such rumors.

The reply of Hoover to the President of the U.S. read, "We have received reports of such rumors; but we have investigated them and have found that they are without substance."

However, despite this report to President Johnson, the Church Committee of the U.S. Senate has now fully documented the plot on Castro's life.

What must be told to the American people is that J. Edgar Hoover, who had advised his President that the alleged plot had been fully investigated and there was nothing to it, had previously certified to the Warren Commission that the FBI's "exhaustive" investigation had established that "Oswald, acting alone and for undermined motives, assassinated President John Kennedy."

In light of the information furnished the late head of the FBI by the chief of the Secret Service at that time, the conclusion is inescapable that Hoover,

as a matter of self-preservation, took President Johnson off the trail for fear the truth would reveal the monumental error in his report to the Warrren commission.

Information since uncovered by me proves that at the time Earl Warren received the information of the Castro assassination plot, another man sitting with him while the intelligence was being relayed, leaked the information to the White House so the President would be aware of it if the different agencies attempted a cover-up.

What is most significant is the time frame between the last attempt on Castro's life, which was in late spring of 1963, and the assassination of the President which occurred on Nov. 22, 1963. Despite potential significance neither the head of the Secret Service nor the director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation saw fit to inform the Warren Commission of the proximity of the events.

Further, official investigators of the President's death seemingly weren't too impressed by the pattern of Oswald's travels. Information was in the hands of the Warren Commission that Oswald had visited Moscow and had made several trips to Cuba.

Other reports linked him with Pro-Castro revolutionary groups in both New Orleans and Texas, but clear signs of involvement of the Cuban dictator in a death plot were ignored.

A most obvious flaw in the Warren Commission Report is the absence of any relevant distinctions and considerations between the assassination of President Kennedy and the asassination of other American Presidents.

The assassins of Abraham Lincoln, William McKinley, and James Garfield and those who made attempts on the lives of other Presidents like Franklin Roosevelt, Harry Truman and even Gerald Ford all carried out their nefarious crimes in the most public places and in close proximity to their victims.

They acted in an emotional context with no effort to disguise their bloody work or provide an avenue of escape.

This pattern is absent in the case of Oswald. His crime was coldly planned, down to a remarkably calculated determination of the parade route of President Kennedy and its relationship to the upper window of the Texas Book Depository from which he fired his rifle. He also felt he had provided an escape route for himself which he deemed foolproof. Perhaps it was, because Oswald was only trapped after committing another crime, killing a Dallas policeman.

All of this suggests that Oswald, unlike all other presidential assassins or would-be assassins, proceeded from long and careful planning inspired by forces beyond his own capabilities.

There is one other aspect of this horrendous crime against one of the nation's most loved of Presidents, which requires study in view of the circumstances immediately following the assassination. The attorney general brother, Robert Kennedy, went into a deep — almost catatonic state of depression which continued for such a long period that his family and friends despaired that he would not recover. There were even reports that when he learned of the death of his brother, he cried, "My God, I have killed my brother."

His mental attitude and long sustained depression was inconsistent with any normal reaction of grief at the loss of a loved one.

What might have been eating at the vitals of Robert Kennedy was the certain knowledge that the CIA plot to kill Castro of which he was a part, led unerringly to the death of his brother, the President of the United States. And possibly to his own death.

The motives of Fidel Castro, the words he uttered, documents in the hands of the Church Committee which are a part of a still-hidden record, and information in my files lead overwhelmingly to the conclusion that a charge of murder against Fidel Castro for the killing of John F. Kennedy can be supported.

I so charge and may God have some — but not too much — mercy on his miserable soul.